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General Ols is not very quick to recog-

nize rebel governments. A little near-

sighted, perhaps.

Whatever military promotion the govern-

ment may give Colonel Fustion the people

will say he has earned it.

The American casualties in the Philip-

pines from Feb. 4 to April 25 were 198 killed

and 1,111 wounded. One brigade lost more

than this in a single battle of the civil war.

The "white flag" stage of the campaign

having been reached in Luzon, the Agu-

inaldo contingents in the United States

should ask for an armistice of an indefinite

period.

That was a good point of General Ols's

that if Aguinaldo could make war without

his Congress he could stop it without refer-

ence to that body. There was no getting

away from that.

The "Little Americans" who have been

trying to incite discontent and mutiny

among our troops in the Philippines will

have no share or lot in the victory that is

about to crown our arms.

America's debt of gratitude to her heroic

soldiers in the Philippines can only be fair-

ly estimated by contemplating the disaster

that would have come upon us if they had

fallen and the disgrace if they had flunked.

The champions of Aguinaldo in this coun-

try have caused for disgust in the intelli-

gence that the natives and property owners

in San Fernando have appealed to the

Americans to occupy the city in order to

stop the plundering of the insurgents.

The victim of Mrs. George was tried rather

than the woman arraigned for the crime,

and her acquittal was the result. While

the best interests of society may be sub-

served in such a result, considering the

man, it would not be wise to make it a

precedent.

Colonel Moulton, of the Second Illinois

Regiment, which has just returned from

Cuba, thinks the Cubans will be capable

of self-government after a reasonable

amount of training. He says he expects to

see the American troops remain on the

island two or three years, and that annex-

ation is the ultimate solution.

The public will be somewhat surprised to

hear that Controller of the Currency Chas.

G. Dawes is in Chicago to make arrange-

ments for opening a branch of the bureau

of the Republican national committee and

set other political machinery in operation.

In the same issue its Manila correspondent

declares that the natives are unit for self-

government and that the United States

should control the islands. The opinion of

the man on the ground is probably the

sounder one.

The United States Signal Office seems to

be repeating in the Philippines the won-

derfully efficient work it did in Cuba in

electrical engineering and in establishing

telegraphic communication between the mili-

tary authorities and the government. This

work is not as brilliant and dramatic as

the winning of battles, but it is a very im-

portant feature of war.

The volunteers who remained in the Philip-

pines after their terms of enlistment ex-

pired will congratulate themselves as long

as they live that they were "in at the

death" and able to witness the triumph of

their brilliant work in the insurgents suing

for peace. The medals which they will re-

ceive from the government will be valued

heirlooms in their families for generations.

A royal commission appointed by the

Prussian government has arrived in New

York to see what can be done towards re-

moving the barriers to free insurance busi-

ness. About four years ago the Prussian

government issued decrees revoking con-

cessions under which the New York Life

and two or three other American com-

panies had been doing a large business in

Prussia. It was well understood at the

time that the order was due to the envy

of German companies, though other reasons

for it were assigned by the government. In

retaliation several States of the Union, in-

cluding New York, denied the Prussian life

insurance companies the privilege of doing

business within their bounds. Since that

time there has been a good deal of diplo-

matic correspondence relative to restoring

the old state of affairs, and the outcome

of it is the present commission. As the

Prussian government commenced the boy-

cott it would seem that the first step to-

wards restoring the old condition should

be the repeal of the Prussian decree against

the American companies.

Last week there was a large meeting of

the ministers and others prominent in the

Christian Church, in St. Louis, who dis-

cussed different phases of the work of that

large and growing organization. Perhaps

the most striking declaration of the session

was made by Rev. W. F. Richardson, of Kansas City, who virtually admitted that a bishop would be a most useful man in that church. He did not use the word "bishop," but spoke of the advantage which might be derived from "a supervisor of churches," which is the same thing, "to protect our churches against bad preachers and the preachers against bad churches." Mr. Richardson further declared that "we are leaving our churches defenseless to-day; we are leaving them to the wolves; I am not so much afraid of ecclesiasticism as of the false independence that is ruling thousands of our churches today." This is a remarkable admission for a minister of a church which believes that "the congregation is the unit," but the report says that the expression received generous applause. A supervisor of churches with power to prevent unfit men from being made pastors would prevent a large part of the quarrels which so frequently disgrace religion and destroy the usefulness of churches under the congregational system.

AMERICAN MILITARISM.

The misinformed and unpatriotic Americans who are denouncing "the new policy of militarism" mistake a myth of their own creation for a reality. Suppose that a number of alarmed and hysterical citizens should hold a meeting and adopt resolutions deprecating the growth of monarchical ideas in the United States, or condemning some imaginary conspiracy for the dissolution of the Union and the formation of an Eastern and Western confederacy, or expressing alarm at the evidences of President McKinley's desire to make himself dictator for life—they would not be a whit more foolish than the people who are talking about militarism. The essence of militarism is the subordination of civil to military government and the maintenance of national power by means of standing armies. That system prevails in Germany, where, in order to maintain a standing army of 500,000 men in time of peace and a war strength of 900,000 trained soldiers, every able-bodied German, unless exempted by lot, is called into the active service at the age of twenty and has to serve two years in the infantry or three years in the cavalry and field artillery. Under this system, out of about 300,000 young men who are physically fit and legally liable to serve each year on the completion of their twentieth year, 60,000 are annually drafted into the army. All the able-bodied men between the ages of seventeen and forty-five who are not in the standing army are enrolled in the Landsturm and subject to military orders at any moment. This system prevails and dominates every department of German life. The whole political and social fabric of the Empire rests upon it, and at the touch of a button the Emperor by divine right can set the machine in motion and put in the field an army of 500,000 men to the neglect and perhaps the ruin of every peaceful industry in Germany. It is unnecessary to say that no person thinks of establishing any such system in the United States.

The only militarism we have or are likely to have in this country is the volunteer system by which armies are raised from the ranks of citizens. If these armies go abroad they become propagandists of civilization, advance agents of prosperity and representatives of good government, as they have recently in Cuba and Porto Rico, and will soon be in the Philippines. No one can note the work the Americans have done and are doing in Cuba and Porto Rico without admitting that militarism as it is understood and practiced in this country is a nursery of progress and a school of civilization. The kind of militarism that establishes postoffices and schools, builds roads, stamps out disease, enforces sanitary regulations, suppresses brigandage and establishes government, law and order, will never hurt anybody. That is American militarism.

WOMEN AND PEACE.

In an address to the Society of the Daughters of the Revolution, last Sunday, by Archdeacon Brady, of Philadelphia, he extolled the loyal devotion of American women to the ideals of right and justice, which, he said, inspired the Revolution. "Action," he said, "is the breath of life, yet those women of the Revolution had to sit back and wait. The palm of victory longed to those who inspired and remained behind." The same loyalty and devotion were manifested in the civil war. When husbands and sons and brothers went to fight their country's battles women looked on with sad hearts, but made no effort to hold their soldiers back. On the contrary, they sent them away inspired with hope and courage and determination to win. To a less extent the same spirit has been shown by American women in the war against Spain—less simply because there was not so strenuous a demand upon their sympathies and energies, and not because they were out of touch with the causes and issues of the war. They deprecate war, they wish the world were so civilized as to have advanced beyond it, but when the men go to battle the women are still with them in spirit, as they were in revolutionary days. There was a flourishing peace society a few years ago, and as it happened, there was such an apparent truce among nations at the time that the organization felt highly elated and congratulated itself and the world on the probability that all bloody strife was ended. Then, suddenly, fierce contentions arose here and there, armies were assembled, and Japan and China, with Russia in the background, were in battle array; later, Greece and Turkey, then England and France and the tribes of the Sudan, and, finally, our own land and Spain. Then, after a few spasmodic signs of life, the Peace Society went into retirement and boasted no more. But presently came the war, and all the rulers of the earth, and urged disarmament. No doubt he is, personally and from principle, in favor of peace, but neither the history of Russia nor the present conditions encourage the belief that Russia, as a nation, desires or is ready to accept such a policy. At present it may have much to gain from disarmament, but a little later it is likely to want an army, or else all indications of its purpose to expand are misleading. Nevertheless, the call of the Czar for a peace conference has been respected, and the meeting at The Hague, in May, will have representatives from all civilized nations. That an immediate effect will result is not probable, but if the conference should give the peace sentiment an impetus something will be accomplished. And the promoter of the gathering, the Czar, will have the satisfaction of knowing that an organization of American women approves his course. That is, he may discover it, though it is not probable, since the congratulatory letter addressed to him by the Women's National Council will, it is announced, be sent direct to the American consulate; whereas, to have official prestige and a reasonable chance of reaching his Majesty's attention

It should go through the hands of Secretary Hay. If he does learn of this endorsement of his plan he will, no doubt, be gratified, but let him not take it as an indication that American women are for peace at any cost. They disapprove of war on general principles, but if the need comes, as when oppressed Cuba needed a friend, or when an enemy trespasses on their own territory, and the men rally for attack or defense, the women will stand by them, perhaps urge them on. Human nature, which includes feminine nature, needs a great deal of modification before the fighting spirit can be advocated. Noncombatants are not always advocates of peace. It all depends on circumstances.

GOVERNMENT BY JUNTA.

The American reading public has heard more of juntas during the last year or two than in all our previous history. It will be well when we cease to hear of them. The word as well as the thing is foreign to American ideas, both being Spanish. To Latin-Americans it represents a legitimate political method, but to English-speaking peoples it carries an opprobrious meaning. The Spaniards, the Cubans, the Central and South Americans and the Filipinos manage everything by a junta. In the English language it represents a cabal, a faction, an intrigue or a conspiracy. The word has never been used in English or American history except in a condemnatory or odious sense. In the reigns of William III and Queen Anne, of England, it was applied to a group of leading Whig politicians who ruled by arbitrary means, and of whom an English poet wrote:

The puzzling sons of party next appeared,
In dark council, the junta met.
At that time, by the way, the word had recently been borrowed from the Spanish language and was erroneously spelled junta instead of junta. So it was in early American history, when the term Essex junta was applied, about 1781, to a group of extreme Federalist leaders mostly connected with Essex county, Massachusetts. Later the name was applied to the Federalists in general and it helped to bring that party into popular disrepute.

For a long time the American people heard nothing of juntas, but since the beginning of the Cuban war they have been much in evidence. For months before the war between the United States and Spain began the so-called Cuban government was run by a junta in Cuba and another in the United States. The principal business of both was to foment trouble, misrepresent facts and disseminate lies. Incidentally the Cuban junta in the United States made constant appeals for money and raised considerable sums which were spent in some mysterious way without ever being accounted for. If the Cuban junta in the United States was of any use to the Cuban cause the fact has never appeared, yet when the Spaniards were driven out of Cuba by the United States army and navy, the junta claimed the lion's share of credit. The Cuban assembly which obstructed the pacification of Cuba for several months was a branch of the junta. In the Philippines Aguinaldo and his followers represent a junta government which has one branch in Hong-Kong and another in Europe, dividing its time between London and Paris. A peculiarity of the junta is that it does not need to have any local habitation, and when one junta is destroyed or retires from business another takes its place, as the limbs of a lobster replace themselves by new growth. From a political point of view the peculiar feature of junta government as it exists in Latin-American nations is that it is spontaneous, self-created, self-appointed, self-elected, above the people, yet not of the people, exercising large authority without power, government of the many by a few and for a few, arbitrary, whimsical, irresponsible, untrustworthy, powerless for good and potent for mischief. The only single word that can describe the kind of government is the word translated from the Spanish to the English language. It is to be hoped that with the passing of the present transition and reconstruction period we may have heard the last of juntas and junta government.

CLUBS AND CLUBS.

The so-called literary club which has been such a feature of intellectual life in all parts of the country within the past few years has suffered somewhat from overdevelopment. One rather flippant critic recently remarked that the club had "gone to seed." This is not a fair verdict, for it has certainly not outlived its usefulness. The trouble is that the men, but more especially the women, who compose the membership of these organizations have taken them too seriously. It has not been enough to belong to one club; the argument has apparently been that if one is good more must be better, and it is no uncommon thing for one woman to belong to half a dozen, if the population of her town admits of the existence of so many. To be a member of two or three such societies is an every-day matter. Naturally, the effort to do her part in all these soon becomes a burden instead of a pleasure, interest flags, and it grows difficult for committees to fill programmes for the season. This is particularly true of clubs which have no distinct purpose beyond that vaguely defined by the term "literary"—a term too often accepted by the members to mean the production of essays on more or less abstruse and remote topics which even scholars and specialists might hesitate to handle. Such essays are apt to be neither edifying nor entertaining, and unless the social bond uniting the members is unusually strong attendance dwindles and the club is kept alive with an effort. It is a rare club, one whose members have special gifts, which can make from its own resources a distinct and inspiring intellectual atmosphere. It means the possession of varied talents, of expert knowledge, of scholarship, breadth of view, originality, and other qualities not frequently represented by those who unite for the purpose of mental recreation. But the clubs which undertake special lines of investigation not beyond the powers of any intelligent, earnest person are those that are a genuine intellectual stimulus in a community. They may take the world for their theme, as "travel clubs" they may follow up the developments of science in its "popular" forms; they may study agriculture or horticulture, or they may study the history of letters, and this is perhaps the most satisfactory pursuit in which the average club can engage. History properly studied involves so much of patriotism, heroism, romance and biography, and has so great a bearing on the events of to-day that it offers a direct human charm belonging to no other theme. The nearer to the present day this investigation comes the greater is the diversity of interest. Fortunately, the value of this line of study is being realized and history clubs are becoming numerous. One lately organized in Union City, whose

programme has been kindly sent to the Journal by one of its members, is an example of what may be done in this line. For the first year's study it has wisely taken up the history of our own country, and in the year will cover the ground between the discovery by Columbus and the beginning of the Revolutionary war. The membership is composed of the leading men and women of the town, and it is safe to say that the new thoughts they will gain concerning American institutions will not only interest them, but will make them better, because more enlightened citizens. Americans are patriotic, but it is not always an intelligent patriotism which animates them. There is now too great a familiarity with their national history, and the clubs of this class are doing a very definite public service.

There is an excellent field, also, for local history clubs. Each county has its traditions which are rapidly becoming vague for want of verification and chronicle. The history of the State has never been written in its completeness. This is a day when people are taking a proper interest in ancestry, and whoever searches out the stories of early settlers, their trials and triumphs, and puts them on paper, is contributing chapters of value to local records. If clubs seek a distinct and worthy excuse for existence they need not go far to find it.

SPEAKING OF THE MONUMENT.

Not long since the Journal suggested the propriety and desirability of having the remaining sculptural work for the soldiers' monument put into the hands of American artists. However favorably the public may regard the great groups now in place, there is no doubt that much disappointment was felt when a foreigner was engaged to furnish the designs for the other groups, so that the ideas to be brought out were so distinctly American and that the services of any one of several American sculptors of distinction might have been secured. There was also the feeling when the contract went to Schmitz that as he was an architect and not a sculptor there was danger that for commercial reasons the work would be turned over to inferior artists. The chief argument in favor of having Schmitz furnish the groups was that as he had constructed the shaft he would be more likely than another to bring the parts to be added into proper proportions, but, as it happens, one of the most frequent criticisms made, both by artists and by lay observers, upon these groups is their lack of proportion. The verdict of the public is favorable on the whole, but it may be noted that there is no such enthusiastic and irrefragable admiration for these groups as the great Shaw memorial, by St. Gaudens, arouses in all classes of spectators. But the Journal has no disposition to criticize the work now finished. It merely wishes to urge that an effort be made to have the smaller groups designed by one of the American sculptors who have made and are making great names for themselves. The monument commission has, it is true, advertised for bids for this work, but up to this time, we believe, only in the local press, and not in the art journals. Without discussing the propriety of advertising for bids on art work or the possibility of any sculptor of repute entering into that form of competition, it certainly seems desirable that the attention of such sculptors should be attracted to the work by more direct means, if only for advisory purposes. This may easily be done. The National Sculpture Society, of which J. Q. A. Ward is president, and of which all the leading sculptors of the country are members, has a committee whose duty it is to give advice concerning art work whenever called upon. They do not criticize what is done; they make suggestions in regard to what is to be done. The help of this society and this committee was sought by the government architect when he built, and it is largely due to their work and their aid that the decorations of this building are so highly artistic and so greatly admired. Surely it is worth while to have advice from this quarter in regard to the finishing touches which may add or detract so much from the beauty of our great war memorial.

The outside world hears little of movements in the vast empire of Russia beyond the fact that the Czar cannot safely go abroad and the secret detective is omnipresent. Heretofore the hostile element has been composed of nobles who lost their estates when serfdom was abolished. Of late there are reports of revolutionary agitation in the manufacturing districts. The workers have learned to organize, and this organization is along socialistic lines. Troops have been sent to those districts to put down local insurrections. Hundreds of strikers have been arrested and much property has been destroyed. In addition to the open discontent in the cities, famine is consuming the agricultural people over wide areas. While Russia has displayed great energy in expanding its territory, it has given no attention to the education and well-being of masses. No people, according to ability, is so heavily taxed as the Russian people. This is particularly true of the small number of men who constitute the government. Russia has the largest army in the world, and a large navy has been created at immense cost. Its immense Siberian railroad, designed for national aggrandizement, is and probably always will be the cause of a large national outlay. It has borrowed to the limit that it can find credit in the capitals of Europe. This internally weak Russia is rather forced to ask the nations to agree to stop further armament.

The bill which the New York Legislature has passed providing for the taxation of franchises is the most important legislation upon the subject which has been attempted by any State. The value of a franchise will be based upon the quotations of the company's stock. The value thus obtained will be taxed as the real estate. This measure will reach much of the property in New York which has hitherto escaped taxation.

Professor Briggs, who, as the advocate of higher criticism in Theological Seminary, gave the Presbyterians so much trouble a few years since, is having a rough time of it in the Episcopal Church. While he has passed the tests of the bishops, examining chaplains and the standing committees of the diocese of New York for his advancement to the priesthood, he meets with a new check in the objection of Dr. Clendenen, rector of the church in which Professor Briggs is to be ordained as priest. He charges that Professor Briggs is a destroyer of the inspiration of the Bible. Dr. Clendenen takes exception to the declaration of Professor Briggs that "the church needs a greater reformation than it has yet enjoyed." He thinks the church, meaning his own, is now having being reformed, and he is protesting against the ordination of Dr. Briggs, made to Bishop Potter. Dr. Clendenen expresses his opinion

of some ancient reformers of the great church as follows:

These are the types of men, then, who are coming to restore to purity the great church, of which you are a loved and honored bishop. Luther, who broke his own neck, and a woman to break her vows, and cast with scorn St. James from the gates of St. Peter, and the necessity of good works and a good life; Calvin, the author of the monstrous misconception and heresy which bears his name. These are the kind of men Dr. Briggs holds are coming to "prepare the bride for the bridegroom."

The men who caused Professor Briggs to retire from the Presbyterian Church did so because he was not in accord with the successors of Luther and Calvin.

It is probable that Governor Roosevelt regards Colonel Fustion's life as sufficient "strenuous" for all practical purposes.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

True Prophecy.

Mrs. Peck—in which case, it is safe to presume, they will soon be at me.

Ain't It.

"Durn this baseball!" said the Georgian. "What do you care about baseball?" asked the other Georgian, idly twirling the cane he had manufactured from a piece of hickory and a "nigrah's" thigh-bone.

"It is keeping us out of the papahs, sah. Our lynchings are not getting more than half a column these days."

A Voice.

An Orator was discoursing on subjects political until his Nose Glowed Like a Beacon. "I am afraid of Neither Fire nor Water," shouted.

"Nor," said a convenient Voice in the Rear of the Hall, "of Both."

This fable teaches that an alleged voice is a good thing to help the paragraph man make his point.

Answered the Question.

"What do you do for a living?" asked the lawyer, frowning horribly at the hatchet-faced young man undergoing cross-examination.

"I am a student of the law," answered the witness, hastily diving into his satchel, and the agent for Dr. Korker's Celebrated Corn and Bun Destroyer; greatest remedy of the age; used by all the crowned heads of Europe; never known to fail to remove the most obstinate corn in less than twenty-four hours or money cheerfully refunded."

Here the court interferred.

NEW INVENTIONS.

A Kentuckian has patented a piano hammer which has a disk of felt carried by a pair of curved fingers set in a tapering tube, with a nut at the opposite end to tighten the disk, the disk being turned around as it wears.

A Texan has patented a machine which will crack nuts of any size or shape, consisting of two jaws suspended to permit of vertical movement, which is obtained by a pair of cams operated by a lever at the side of the machine.

The floor sweepers are easily taken up by a new dustpan, which rests in a depression cut in the floor, the edges being flush with the floor and allowing the dirt to be swept under the pan, the dustpan being held in the pan with the hand.

An Englishman has designed a ventilated shoe for summer wear which has the upper formed of two pieces, with strips cut to insulate the foot from the sole, forming a loose lace work, which admits air to the top and sides of the foot.

A handy